



Naval Base Quartet at Liberty Theatre January 25 and 26.

DAVENPORT WRITES

Vestaburg Man Writes Highly Interesting Letter From France.

The following is a letter from Harry Davenport, son of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Davenport of Vestaburg. Harry enlisted in Grand Rapids and went to France in June, 1917, taking his training in the camp at the fairgrounds. He is in France with the 16th Engineers.

Spincourt, France, Nov. 24

Dear Ones All:
This is the first time that I have been able to tell you where I am located since I have been in France with the exception of once when I was in Meuse. I was then so far behind the lines that I could do no harm in telling. I presume you have wondered many times where I have been.

Last winter we were in Issurville putting in one of the largest camps or supply bases that there is in France. Then we were sent up with the British. This was in April. You will remember that was during the time the Germans were making their big drive on the British. We were under shell fire all the time there but they failed to get any of our boys at that time.

Then in July and August we were at Meuse. In September and part of November we were at Meuse putting up a large hospital. Then we were called back to the front again, up by Verdun.

We were fixing the railroad directly along the line north of Verdun when the war was called to a finish. There was great excitement about that time. We could even light a candle and feel that an airship was not going to fly over and hand us a package. You could see all kinds of celebrations going on in every direction.

You see we all thought the war had finished about five days before it really did close. They had called our boys to a standstill to let those German officers cross the line and everything being so quiet we thought sure they had stopped. That night we realized that the war was still on but the Germans were retreating all the time.

I wish you could see these towns where the fighting has been going on. Some of them are nothing but a great pile of stone. Where we are now the villages are in good shape. These places were taken by the Germans at the outbreak of the war so they have not suffered so very much. People are moving back here now. You should see how happy some of them seem to be, others have some hard stories to tell.

One old lady was telling one of the boys the other day that a German officer had taken her daughter, about fifteen years old, to live with him and that she was just alive and that was all.

The French people who have been in Germany during the war are returning to their homes and it is a heart-breaking sight to see them. They are happy though to think they can come home under the French government.

I wish you could see the prisoners coming back—walking, catching a ride wherever they can. The stories we used to read about the soldiers returning from the Civil war are nothing compared with this. Fathers returning and finding their families all scattered, maybe dead. Some of the men who were fighting in France while their wives and daughters were still in captured territory are now coming back to find them awaiting them with Dutch babies in their arms.

A French woman was telling one of the boys today that when the Germans took this town at the outbreak of the war, they took all the young French women, from twelve years up, and kept them as white slaves and when they were tired of them they killed them.

I have seen a good many Germans lying on the ground with their faces up but not with a contented look on them. I couldn't help but think that the time had come to them to answer a few questions. Old Kaiser Bill must think "Gott" has gone back on him. He gave in a little too soon. I wish we could have gotten into Germany just to show his people what war is the way he gave it to the French.

I have been spending the day wandering around looking for souvenirs that I could carry. I sent a helmet, a German gas mask and a German gun home today. The gun is as rusty as it can be because I picked it up on the field but I know you would like to use a little sand paper. I don't know as we are permitted to send guns through the mail but I took a chance. I have another gun that is a dandy but it will be quite a job to get it home.

Our regiment, I understand, is in the third army. So if you can follow the papers you will be able to tell where we are. I have received several letters from you lately but haven't had a chance to answer them because we have been on the move most of the time. We have been following up old Germany, that is, when we could keep up with them.

This is German paper that I am using. It is all I have or I would use something else. I found this in a book and took all the clean sheets. We have moved eight times in the last three weeks so you see I had no more stuff with me than was necessary.

We hit the trail one day over twenty miles. I had two suits of underwear, three blankets, pair of shoes, my toilet articles, an overcoat, a raincoat, some socks, a gun, a gas mask, a helmet, tent poles and pins. Now I can tell you I was a tired little boy when we reached our destination. Mud all the way, also logs and everything a man could run into. But those days are gone and I for one am not sorry.

I think we stand a chance of being among the first ones home. Home—that sounds good to me!

Love to all,
Corp. Harry Davenport,
16th Reg. Eng. Co. C.

IT STARTLED THEM

Some newcomers to Alma were startled when they found what a fine meal could be had for 35c at the European Cafe.—77-1f-c.

THE THEATRE

Liberty Theatre

The Naval Base Quartet, consisting of four jolly sailors from the Atlantic fleet, is coming to the Liberty theatre Saturday and Sunday, January 25 and 26, and promise to give Alma music lovers some rare treats.

The four are all Michigan boys, originally hailing from Greenville. They are L. M. Johnson, V. C. Campbell, W. E. Irish and W. E. Dallavo. The boys enlisted in the navy when the country seemed to be facing one of the greatest trials of its history, and following a year's service on the high seas received their honorable discharges.

Soon after they entered the navy, they became known as the Naval Base Quartet. They were students in Maryland at first, but soon after were transferred to Norfolk, Va., and later were assigned to a battleship. For weeks they entertained the sailors of the Atlantic fleet, while that fleet was searching the seas for German subs.

They are experienced performers, and have several prizes which they cherish highly, among these being a harp and a guitar presented to them for their work in boosting the Fourth Liberty Loan in Baltimore.

It is expected that they will give the patrons of this movie a most delightful entertainment.

RED CROSS NOTES

The following news from the executive board meeting, held last week, at Mr. Bahlke's office will be of interest. The county committee for civilian relief was elected. Owing to the fact that Alma is the center of industrial activities, it was deemed a just honor to place the chairmanship in this city, and Mr. Frank Polasky was elected. The other members of the committee are W. A. Bahlke, Karl R. Adams, Dr. Fred J. Graham, Carl H. Washburn of Alma, and Miss Edna Pino, Ithaca, who is the secretary. A report will be found in another column.

A vote carried to send \$1,000 from the county to Central Division headquarters and in return receive our materials for supplies free.

Local Red Cross headquarters, south rooms on second floor of the Polasky block, general chairman, Mrs. R. H. Wilcox, who reports that a quota of 75 plain gingham aprons for women has been received, and ten pajamas yet to finish, and only two or three workers at the rooms; think of it! This brings to mind with imperative force, the thought which we have harbored for sometime, to-wit: An insidious epidemic is in our midst, known by the name of "I'm-thru-enza." The publicity chairman of Lansing has diagnosed the disease, and with due apologies we quote here (thus saving time and grey matter). "First symptom is lassitude, indicated by the oft repeated remark, 'It's all over—why should I work?' Second symptom, cold feet (mercy). The next indication is utter forgetfulness (that our boys are still 'over there') and lack of concentration, (on one's knitting). The eyes become affected, (cannot see to sew), and the ears also, (cannot hear the appeal of hundreds of thousands of refugees, who must be clothed, fed and housed). In advanced stages of the disease the heart turns to stone, (horrible!). To further quote, "A vaccine of equal parts of I-won't-quilt spirits, and Red Cross tincture; and after each lunch, (in place of lying down or doing fancy work), a dose of the following, a dash of patriotism and a peck of pep, will prove a sure immediate use this splendid prescription. Here's hoping more women will immediately use this splendid prescription.

QUICK CURE FOR CROUP
Watch for the first symptom, hoarseness, and give Chamberlain's Cough Remedy at once. It is prompt and effectual.

When You Want to Sell

We are in the market for

HAY

We are paying \$16 to \$20 per ton according to quality. No use holding your hay for it will be cheaper instead of higher.

Potatoes are now worth 75c per bushel.

A few good Apples wanted for which we are paying 50c, 75c and \$1.00.

Nelson Smith

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRODUCE Warehouse, Foot of Gratiot Avenue

Both Phones ALMA, MICH.

Tucker's Cash Grocery

817 Wright Ave. Union Phone 302-3r

Invariably merchants say, "Too much stock, must move it." But we need the money so we say here goes for more money at the following prices, on

Friday and Saturday, January 24 and 25

Pillsbury flour (1-8 bbl.)	per sack	\$1.52
Buffalo flour (1-8 bbl.)	per sack	\$1.47
Sifted Snow (Pastry) (1-8 bbl.)	per sack	\$1.45
Summer Buckwheat (1-20 bbl.)	per sack	89c
10 lbs. granulated sugar	10 lbs. only	99c
Good canvas gloves	3 pairs for	40c
1 gal. New Manse Syrup	corn and maple,	\$1.49
Macaroni, noodles or spaghetti	9c, 3 for	25c
Karo Syrup, light or dark,	1-gal. pail	75c
1/2-gal. pail		40c
Small can, 1 1/2 lbs.		14c
Kirk's Flake White Soap	10 bars	65c
Swift's Vindicator (Toilet)	3 bars for	25c
Swift's Peerless (Hard water)		5c
Bell's Cocoa Antiseptic	1 doz. bars	75c
Grandpa's Wonder (Tar soap)	5c, 10 bars	45c
Yeast Foam, per pkg.	3 for	10c
Handy Box Matches	1 doz.	65c
One gallon bluing for		10c
Old Dutch Cleanser 9c, 3 for		25c
1 good 4-string broom for		89c
1 good glass washboard for		59c
1 good mop stick for		14c
Marigold Tea, 1/2-lb. pkg.		35c
Owl Nibs Tea, 1/2-lb. pkg.		35c
Lux Soap Flakes 13c, 2 for		25c
Ivory Soap Flakes 10c, 3 for		28c
Avena Rolled Oats, per lb.		7 1/2c
Pure Apple Butter per lb.		19c
Cocoanut Bars (National)	per lb.	25c
Butter crackers (National)	per lb.	18c
Soda crackers (National) lb		20c
Lakeside Biscuits, 4 1/2 oz. pkg		5c
None Such mince meat	2 for	25c
CANNED GOODS		
Strictly Fresh		
Pride of Bloomington Corn	15c	
Early June Peas	15c	
String Beans (Hart brand)	15c	
Wax Beans (Hart brand)	15c	
Pork & Beans (Hart brand)	15c	
White Rose Rice 13c, 2 lbs.	25c	
Prince Albert Smoking Tobacco in 1-lb. glass humidor		\$1.19
Chocolate Covered Peanuts	lb	30c
No. 1 Dairy Butter per lb		60c
Strictly fresh eggs per doz.		60c
Kream Krip shortening (12 oz. can)		24c

Prospective Auto Purchasers

Two Startling Facts

Were brought out at a meeting of the Ford Dealers of Eastern Michigan which was held in Saginaw this week to discuss the Automobile situation.

There will be no immediate reduction of prices, on account of high wages and the scarcity of material.

The Ford Motor Co., is 72,000 behind actual deliveries.

The Only Answer

Those intending to purchase a Ford should place their order at once, to avoid disappointment.

C. M. JOHNSON GARAGE

ALMA MICHIGAN

The Liberty

"Home of Good Photoplays"

Mat. 2:30—Mon., Tues. and Wed. Eve. 7:15-8:45

Week Jan. 26th to Feb. 1st

Emma Whelen
—in—
"House of Gold"
also "Tramps—Traitors"
EXTRA SPECIAL!!!
Famous Naval Base Quartet

SUNDAY

The Idlehour

"Always Good Photoplays"

Mat. 2:30—Thurs., Fri. and Sat. Eve. 7:15-8:45

Week Jan. 26th to Feb. 1st

Tom Moore
—in—
"Just for Tonight"
also "The Battle Royal"

MONDAY

Barbara Castleton
—in—
"Hereditry"
also Pathe News

Pauline Frederick
—in—
"Out of the Shadow"
also Episode No. 2 "The Iron Test"
Pathe News

TUESDAY

"God's Man"
also Episode No. 4 "Hands Up"

Pauline Starke
—in—
"The Atom"
also "Surprising Husband"

WEDNESDAY

Constance Talmadge
—in—
"Pair of Silk Stockings"
also Pathe News

Marguerite Clark
—in—
"The Girl of the Golden West"
also Burton Holmes Travelogue

THURSDAY

Vivian Martin
—in—
"Mirandy Smiles"
also comedy

Harry Morey
—in—
"The Golden Wall"
also "Their Agreement"

FRIDAY

Francis X. Bushman and Miss Bayne
—in—
"Pair of Cupids"
also "Rose of Wolfville"

Bryant Washburn
—in—
"The Way of a Man with a Maid"
also Bray Pictograph

SATURDAY

Clara Kimball Young
—in—
"The Claw"
also "Why Pick on Me" and War Review

J. Abbe
—in—
"Mystic Faces"
also "Slaves Beauty"

COMING

Charlie Chaplin
—in—
"Shoulder Arms"

William Desmond
—in—
"Pretender"

"Romance of Tarzan"
Madge Kennedy
—in—
"Kingdom of Youth"

Try The Record Liner Column for Your Wants

Always Reliable and Sure to Bring Returns